MAHOGANY WOOD.

The Way It Came to Be Used In the Making of Furniture.

Shippendale owes his reputation tothe fact that he published a book of designs with over 200 copperplate contravings, so that today any one who wishes may get them and reproduce them exactly or with such changes and improvements as suit his fancy. That they are capable of improvement Chippendale himself was the first to declare. Chippendale was one of the first makers of mabogany furniture. Before his time this precious wood was valued only for the medicinal qualities it was supposed to possess,

The idea of making furniture of mabegany wood appears to have been the result of chance. A certain physician in London had a great many mahogany blanks, and, wanting a candle box, he scut for a cabinetmaker and instructed to use the mahogany for the rewaired article of furniture. The man objected that the wood was too hard for his tools, and the doctor told him to get harder tools. The man did so, and when the doctor saw the box he was amazed at its beauty. Patients and friends talked about it, and at last the Duchess of Bucklingham came to see it. She was enraptured and pernumded the doctor to give her wood for similar box. As a result mahogany got to be the fashion.

HORSEPOWER.

The Unit as It Was Originated and Defined by Watt.

When steam engines were employed to drive mills, pumps and other machinery which had been previously driven by horses, it was natural to attempt to express the work done by them in terms of the working power of the horse.

James Watt was the first to define the unit of horsepower, which by experiment he found to be 33,000 foot pounds a minute. In other words, a one horsepower engine would raise 33,000 pounds one foot every minute. and so on proportionally to the number of "horsepowers" indicated by the en-

He arrived at this conclusion by observing the work done by heavy dray borses in breweries working eight hours daily and found that a horse going at the rate of two miles and a half an hour could raise a weight of 150 peunds by a rope led over a pulley, which is equal to 33,000 pounds raised one foot in one minute.

Watt, for the credit of his engines, selected horses of more than average power.

THE ELDER TREE.

In Days Long Gone by It Was Held In Disrepute.

In olden days to be crowned with elder was a disgrace. In an old play we read, "Laurel for a garland and elder for disgrace." This may have been due to the story which Shakespeare has noticed that Judas hanged himself upon an elder tree:

Well follow'd; Judas was hanged on an elder.-"Loye's Labour's Lost."

This legend was generally accepted. Ben Jonson in "Every Man Out of His 'Humour' has, "He shall be your Judas, and you shall be his elder tree to hang on," and Nixon in his "Strange Footsteps," "Our gardens will prosper the better when they have in them not one of those elders whereupon so many covetous Judases hang themselves."

Shakespeare also makes it an emblem of grief:

Grow patience And let the stinking elder, grief, untwine His perishing root with the increasing vine.-"Cymbeline."

-London Telegraph.

Miseries of the Red Sen.

In the waters of the Red sea the cesgation of the engines on a steamer for 6h hour means extreme physical suffering for passengers. For a day it would involve absolute torture. The wind which prevails every day is a hot, asphyxiating blast, and its continuous directions are from north and south toward the center. As a result every passing vessel is subjected to two days of almost intolerable heat, followed by two days of comparative comfort, but instances have been known of crowded liners being compelled when traveling with the wind to turn round and steam back for an hour or so in order to give the passengers even a brief respite from the sufferings induced by the dull, dead, unbearable stmosphere, -London Tit-Bits.

Sheffance.

A little boy in Deering, Mc., was brought before his father recently and The Florida necused of killing a chicken. "Who told you about it?" asked the boy. "The hen did," said the father. Nothing more was said that day, but the next morning the hen was found dead. and the boy, being accused of killing it, admitted it, saying in defense, "Yes, I did kill the hen, and I'll kill every hen that tells on me."

what regularity of features is in women; it is a style of beauty to which the most vain may aspire .- Lo Bru-

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Forests of Europe.

The percentage of the wooded areas of European countries as compared with their total areas is as follows: Finland, 51.2; Sweden, 49.3; Russia, 40.4; Austria, 32.6; Luxemburg, 29.1; Hungary, 27.7; Germany, 26.1; Servia, 24.9; Turkey, 23.4; Norway, 22; Roumania and Switzerland, 21.4 each; Bulgaria, 20.8. The other European countries have less than 20 per cent of woodland.

An Opportunity to Guess. "The difference between an old maid and a married woman." says Caustic, "is that one makes some man happy for life and the other doesn't." Now guess which is which.-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Common Case.

Mrs. Young-Lucy, I'm afraid I married the wrong man. Mrs. Elder-Don't let that disturb you, dear. Every woman who marries does that.-Boston Transcript.

Untold Wealth.

Wagger-They say that old Couponness, the banker, has untold wealth. Gagger-Yes, that's what the tax collector suspects.-Town Topics.

Contentment gives a crown where fortune hath denied it .- Ford.

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